

Name: _____ Date: _____

Polynomial Factoring solution (version 659)

1. The quadratic formula says if $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Use the quadratic formula to solve the following equation.

$$x^2 - 4x + 31 = 0$$

Simplify your answer(s) as much as possible.

Solution

$$x = \frac{-(-4) \pm \sqrt{(-4)^2 - 4(1)(31)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-(-4) \pm \sqrt{16 - 124}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{-108}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{-36 \cdot 3}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{4 \pm 6\sqrt{3}i}{2}$$

$$x = 2 \pm 3\sqrt{3}i$$

Notice that i is NOT under the square-root radical symbol!!

2. Express the product of $-3 + 8i$ and $4 - 7i$ in standard form $(a + bi)$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} & (-3 + 8i) \cdot (4 - 7i) \\ & -12 + 21i + 32i - 56i^2 \\ & -12 + 21i + 32i + 56 \\ & -12 + 56 + 21i + 32i \\ & 44 + 53i \end{aligned}$$

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3. Write function $f(x) = x^3 + x^2 - 14x - 24$ in factored form. I'll give you a hint: one factor is $(x + 2)$.

Solution

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} & 1 & 1 & -14 & -24 \\ -2 & & -2 & 2 & 24 \\ \hline & 1 & -1 & -12 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = (x + 2)(x^2 - x - 12)$$

$$f(x) = (x + 2)(x + 3)(x - 4)$$

4. Polynomial p is defined below in factored form.

$$p(x) = (x + 2) \cdot (x - 1)^2 \cdot (x - 4)$$

Sketch a graph of polynomial $y = p(x)$.

